

a first valve mounted in said housing having a first clapper movable between an open configuration permitting flow through said first valve and a closed configuration preventing flow;

a second valve mounted in said housing having a clapper movable between an open configuration permitting flow through said second valve and a closed configuration preventing flow;

said first valve clapper, when in said open configuration, being positioned to direct said flow from said first direction to provide flow in a second direction, different from said first direction, towards said second valve;

said second valve clapper, when in said open configuration, being positioned to direct said flow from said second direction to a third direction, different from said second direction towards said outlet conduit.

2
a
9
5. (Once Amended) [Apparatus, as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:] A backflow preventor apparatus for connection to parallel, oppositely-flowing inlet and outlet conduits, comprising:

a housing configured to accommodate first and second valves, and to receive fluid flow from said inlet conduit flowing in a first direction;

a first valve mounted in said housing having a first clapper movable between an open configuration permitting flow through said first valve and a closed configuration preventing flow;

24

2
a second valve mounted in said housing having a clapper
movable between an open configuration permitting flow through
said second valve and a closed configuration preventing flow;

said first valve clapper, when in said open
configuration, being positioned to direct said flow from said
first direction to provide flow in a second direction towards
said second valve;

said second valve clapper, when in said open
configuration, being positioned to direct said flow from said
second direction to a third direction towards said outlet
conduit;

first and second openings in said housing, said first
opening providing access to said first valve and said second
opening providing access to said second valve, one of said first
and second openings lying in a substantially horizontal plane,
the other of said openings lying in a substantially vertical
plane; and

first and second removable coverings for said openings.

3
10. (~~Once-Amended~~) A backflow preventor apparatus for
connection to parallel, oppositely-flowing inlet and outlet
conduits, comprising:

a housing configured to accommodate first and second
valves, and to receive fluid flow from said inlet conduit flowing
in a first direction;

a first valve mounted in said housing having a seatable
valve disc having an edge, movable between a closed
configuration preventing flow and an open configuration
permitting flow in the absence of substantial divergent flow

3
a
D
around the edge of said first valve disc, said first valve lying substantially in a first plane when said first valve is in said open configuration;

a second valve mounted in said housing having a seatable valve disc having an edge, movable between a closed configuration preventing flow and an open configuration permitting flow in the absence of substantial diverging flow around the edge of said second valve disc, said second valve lying in a plane substantially perpendicular to said first plane when said second valve is in said open configuration;

K1
said fluid flow having an average streamline path between said inlet conduit and said outlet conduit.

12. (~~Once amended~~) A backflow preventor apparatus for connection to parallel, oppositely-flowing inlet and outlet conduits, comprising:

a housing configured to accommodate first and second valves, and to receive fluid flow from said inlet conduit flowing in a first direction;

a first valve mounted in said housing having a seatable valve disc having an edge, movable between a closed configuration preventing flow and an open configuration permitting flow in the absence of substantial divergent flow around the edge of said first valve disc;

a second valve mounted in said housing having a seatable valve disc having an edge, movable between a closed configuration preventing flow and an open configuration permitting flow in the absence of substantial diverging flow around the edge of said second valve disc;

26

Y1
said fluid flow having an average streamline path between said inlet conduit and said outlet conduit wherein the sum of changes in flow direction of said average streamline path is not substantially greater than about 180 degrees;

Y1
said first valve disc, when in said open configuration, being positioned to direct said flow from said first direction to provide flow in a second direction, different from said first direction, towards said second valve;

Y1
said second valve disc, when in said open configuration, being positioned to direct said flow from said second direction to a third direction, different from said second direction, towards said outlet conduit.

13. (~~Amended~~) A backflow preventor apparatus for connection to parallel, oppositely-flowing inlet and outlet conduits, comprising:

Y1
a housing configured to accommodate first and second valves, and to receive fluid flow from said inlet conduit;

Y1
a first valve mounted in said housing having a seatable valve disc having an edge, movable between a closed configuration preventing flow and an open configuration permitting flow through [an] a first inlet port in a first direction, said first valve mounted to extend along an axis defined by said first direction;

Y1
a second valve mounted in said housing having a seatable valve disc having an edge, movable between a closed configuration preventing flow and an open configuration permitting flow through [an] a second inlet port in a second direction, said second valve mounted to extend along an axis

defined by said second direction, said axis of mounting of said second valve being substantially perpendicular to said axis of mounting of said first valve;

said fluid flow having an average streamline path between said inlet conduit and said outlet conduit, wherein the sum of changes in flow direction of said average streamline path is not substantially greater than about 180 degrees.

14. (~~Once amended~~) A method for preventing backflow between parallel, oppositely-flowing inlet and outlet conduits, comprising:

providing a housing configured to accommodate first and second valves, and to receive fluid flow from said inlet conduit flowing in a first direction;

mounting a first valve in said housing, said first valve having a first clapper movable between an open configuration permitting flow through said first valve and a closed configuration preventing flow;

mounting a second valve in said housing, said second valve having a clapper movable between an open configuration permitting flow through said second valve and a closed configuration preventing flow;

attaching said housing to said inlet and outlet conduits;

directing said flow from said first direction to provide flow in a second direction, different from said first direction, towards said second valve, using said first valve clapper, when in said open configuration; and